

Explanation of Amendments to the Drawings

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 6. This sheet replaces the original sheet including Fig. 6. In Fig. 6, element 33 has been identified and element 24 corrected to read element 26.

Attachment: Replacement Drawing Sheet (1)  
Annotated Drawing Sheet Showing Changes

REMARKS

The Official Action of August 6, 2007, and the prior art cited and relied upon therein have been carefully studied. The claims in the application are now claims 4-5, 8-10, 15 and 21, and these claims define patentable subject matter warranting their allowance. Favorable reconsideration and such allowance are respectfully urged.

Claims 1-3, 6-7, 11-14 and 16-20 have been canceled and new independent claim 21 added. Claims 1, 4-5, 8-10, 15 and 21 remain in the application for consideration.

In response to the Examiner's rejection of claims 19-20 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, Applicant has canceled these claims.

The Examiner has further rejected claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by DE GREEF '801. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection as applied to new independent claim 21 and claims dependent therefrom.

The DE GREEF gripping arms clearly do not operate or are they located in the same manner on the DE GREEF conveying apparatus as claimed.

The Examiner has not identified the numbered elements of DE GREEF she believes to be equivalent to those claimed by Applicant.

Applicant submits that there is no teaching whatever in DE GREEF of at least the following elements and/or their location as set out in new independent claim 21.

- (1) There is no equivalent to the location of the first and second gripping arms as being pivotably engaged on their corresponding drive element,
- (2) There is no equivalent to the tie rod being engaged between the gripping arms,
- (3) There is no equivalent to the guide rail 19,19' being fixed along the longitudinal length of the device between the wheels of the drive element, nor is there any teaching of such a guide rail actuating the claimed lateral movement of the gripping arms when the end of a gripping arm engages the guide rail.

Applicant respectfully submits that the claimed invention patentably defines over the cited prior art at least on the structural differences identified above.

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The prior art documents made of record and not relied upon have been noted along with the implication that such documents are deemed by the PTO to be insufficiently pertinent to warrant their applications against any of applicant's claims.

Favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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